(b) since when these vacancies exist, indicating the date of earliest and last vacancy at the above places, place-wise; and

(c) by when and how these vacancies would be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The vacancy position in the grade of Income Tax Inspector in Delhi, NOIDA, Faridabad, Gurgaon and Ghaziabad as on 1.5.2002 is as under:

Ghaziabad and Noida	—	NIL
Faridabad and Gurgaon	—	NIL
Delhi	—	38*

Direct		Promotional
11		27
*Earliest vacancy	:	28.11.2001
Latest vacancy	:	30.4.2002

Direct Recruit vacancies are filled up by drawing candidates from the Staff Selection Commission. Promotional vacancies are filled up by promotion as per Recruitment Rules.

Privatisation of Employees' Provident Fund

5026. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to privatize Employees' Provident Fund;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Board of Trustees of EPF is not in favour of privatization; and

(c) if so, the reasons for privatizing EPF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.